

# Fish and Wildlife Conservation

How Fish and Wildlife Dollars Are Used in Your Backyard

# **Outagamie County**

#### County characteristics

- 640 sq. mi.
- Lands: A mix of urban areas, farmland/woodlot and recreational land consisting of marsh and bottomland hardwoods
- Waters: 3 named lakes and 19 named streams, including 41 miles of the Wolf, 28 miles of the Embarrass, 20 miles of the Fox, & 20 miles of the Shioc Rivers
- Trends: Experiencing rapid residential growth due to proximity to Fox River Valley
- 165,000 residents live in Outagamie County (50-75% of the population is urban)



# State Land Open to Hunting and Fishing

- 9,000 acres including 6 wildlife areas, scattered fishery areas, 2 State Natural Areas
- 14 walleye spawning marshes
- 30 known sturgeon spawning sites

Locate DNR properties at:

http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr\_lands\_mapping.html

### Fish and Wildlife Staff serving you

- 1 Wildlife Biologist, 1 Wildlife Technician
- 2 Fisheries Biologists, 2 Fisheries Technicians
- 3 Conservation Wardens
- Shawano office: 647 Lakeland Rd
- Appleton office: 3369 W. Brewster St
- Oshkosh office: 625 E Cty Rd Y, Ste. 700
- Staff also serves Shawano, Menominee, Oconto, Waupaca, Brown, Winnebago, and Calumet

Counties

### Activities Funded by Your Hunting and Fishing Dollars

- Establish and maintain grassland and wetland habitat for waterfowl, pheasants, turkeys and other wildlife species
- Established the Lower Wolf River Bottomlands Natural Resources Area
- Wardens patrol over 100 miles of river and 280 miles of snowmobile trails
- Investigated 7 recreational accidents in 2004, issued 700 warnings and 214 citations.





- Annual walleye tagging and survey work on the Wolf River
- Annual sturgeon population assessment
- Restore and improve walleye and sturgeon spawning areas along the Wolf and Embarrass Rivers in partnership with local landowners, conservation and sports clubs.
- Acquisition and preservation of critical spawning areas for walleye and sturgeon.
- Monitor northern pike, flathead catfish, and smallmouth bass populations in lakes & streams.
- Manage land by posting public hunting & access sites, maintain parking areas, trails, buildings.
- Monitor local wildlife populations of waterfowl, grouse, woodcock, turkeys, mourning doves, deer, mammals, otter, frogs, rails, eagles, osprey, tundra swans.
- Respond to wildlife damage, nuisance complaints.
- Monitor fish and wildlife diseases including CWD, West Nile Virus, botulism, & toxic substances.
- Evaluate proposed projects for environmental impacts, work to keep habitats intact.
- Provide hundreds of presentations for schools, conservation organizations, clubs, hunter education classes

## **Outagamie County Conservation Snapshots**

- 7 Boat Launch Access Sites
- **16** ALIS Agents Supported
- 65 Hotline & 340 Complaints
- 7 Deer, Turkey & Bear Registration Stations
- **76** Stream Access Sites



### Fish & Wildlife Stocking Summary

 Outagamie County is fortunate to have good natural fish reproduction on its significant water resources. As a result no annual fish stocking is necessary.

### **County Success Stories**

- Over the past 14 years, thousands of acres of critical walleye spawning habitat have been preserved, enhanced, restored or acquired through the joint efforts of the DNR, conservation clubs and individual landowners.
- In addition to being the key to the great walleye fishery on the Winnebago system, these areas provide habitat for wildlife and, in the case of state purchased spawning areas, recreational land for the public.

# Statewide challenges to maintaining your hunting and fishing opportunities

- Without a fee increase as proposed by Governor Doyle, the Department of Natural Resources will be forced make numerous cuts in:
  - Fish and wildlife stocking programs: Conservation law enforcement; Public hunting acres;
    Fish and wildlife field biologists and Customer services
- Keeping upland, shoreline and aquatic habitat intact and functional
- Multiple user conflicts Increasing pressure on public lands
- Rapid growth urban sprawl
- Nuisance wildlife and invasion by non-native species
- Disease management